

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The examiner is thanked for thoroughly reviewing the subject patent application. Briefly, the application sets forth a claimed invention that is a spin valve GMR sensor, including a substrate, a seed layer, an antiferromagnetic pinning layer, a synthetic antiferromagnetic pinned layer, a Cu spacer layer, a ferromagnetic free layer and a capping layer, in which active sensor layers are deposited in a sputtering chamber using various mixtures of pure argon gas and argon gas mixed with oxygen gas in such a manner as to form sub-atomic monolayers of oxygen that are absorbed on the deposited layers.

Claim Rejections- 35 USC 112

Applicants respectfully request the reconsideration of the rejection of claims 1-12 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Responding to the Examiner's rejection, applicant has amended claim 1 to remove all mention of the phrase "ultra-thin", which lacks a basis for comparison. Applicant has also amended claim 1 to remove the phrase "high density and smoothness", which lacks a basis for comparison. Applicant has also amended claim 1 to remove the indefinite phrase "ultra-low pressure", which lacks a

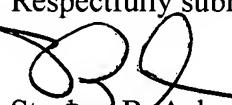
basis for comparison. Claim 3 has also been amended to remove the phrase "ultra-low pressure." Applicant notes that the limitations on the base pressure of the sputtering chamber and the pressures of the sputtering gases used within the sputtering chamber are fully set forth in claims 2, 3 and 7, so the indefinite phrases that have been removed are not needed to clearly describe the invention.

Applicant agrees with the Examiner that the prior art made of record and not relied upon does not suggest the claimed invention.

Conclusion

The Examiner is thanked for thoroughly reviewing the application. All claims discussed above are now believed to be allowable. If the Examiner has any questions regarding the above application, please call the undersigned attorney at 845-452-5863

Respectfully submitted,



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